



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 15/12/02

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Mihli Howell

#5
Amndt. b
1/14/03
PATENT

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michael I. Watkins and Richard B.
Edwards

Application No.: 09/905,338

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: MULTIPLEX FLOW ASSAYS
PREFERABLY WITH MAGNETIC
PARTICLES AS SOLID PHASE

Examiner: Stucker

Art Unit: 1648

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 21 without prejudice to read as follows:

B | 1. (Amended) A composition comprising a plurality of solid-phase assay reagents selectively active in a plurality of assays each for a different analyte, each said solid-phase assay reagent comprising a binding species that is selectively active in a single assay and coupled to one of a plurality of microparticles of magnetically responsive material, the sizes of said microparticles varying in size over a range that is an aggregate of a plurality of subranges, each subrange distinguishable from other subranges

31

